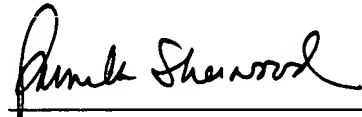


• In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that extensions or other relief is required and/or fees are due applicants, Applicants petition for any required relief, including extensions of time, and authorize the Commissioner to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0815 for any fees due in connection with the filing of this document. The Patent Office is not authorized to charge issue fees to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 1/14/00


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